

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete list of claims. The claims below replace all prior versions of the claims in the application. Please amend claims 1 – 6, 9, 10, 14 – 16, 18 – 22 and 24.

1. (Currently Amended) A keyboard enclosure comprising:
 - a first cavity in which a circuit can be disposed, the circuit including a first node and a second node both of which correspond to a key, wherein the circuit is operable to generate a signal when the key causes the first and second nodes to contact each other;
 - a region forming a second cavity; and
 - a node support located in the second cavity and operable to support the second a node of the circuit when the circuit is disposed in the first cavity. ~~a switch membrane assembly.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the enclosure includes a single second ~~one~~ cavity.
3. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the second cavity has a substantial U-shape.
4. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the second cavity has a substantial U-shape and extends substantially 15.5 inches.
5. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the second cavity has a substantial U-shape, extends substantially 15.5 inches, and is substantially 0.5 inches deep.
6. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the enclosure includes thirteen node supports, each disposed in the second cavity.
7. (Original) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the node support has a cylindrical shape.
8. (Original) The enclosure of claim 7 wherein the node support is hollow.

9. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the second cavity has a substantial U-shape and a bottom wall, and the node support extends from the bottom wall.
10. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the node support includes an end located at an entrance of the second cavity.
11. (Original) The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the enclosure includes a floor and a rib to maintain the position of the node support relative to the floor.
12. (Original) The enclosure of claim 11 wherein the enclosure includes at least two ribs each operable to maintain the position of the node support relative to the floor.
13. (Original) The enclosure of claim 12 wherein the enclosure includes at least two node supports, and one of the ribs extends between two node supports.
14. (Currently Amended) The enclosure of claim 11 wherein:
 - the second cavity has a substantial U-shape, a bottom wall, and a sidewall,
 - the node support extends from the bottom wall, and
 - the enclosure includes at least two ribs that extend between the node support and at least one side wall.
15. (Currently Amended) A keyboard comprising:
 - a plurality of keys, each movable relative to the other keys;
 - a switch membrane assembly including a plurality of circuits each having a first node and a second node both of which corresponding to a respective one of the keys, wherein each circuit is operable to generate a signal when the a-key corresponding to the circuit's first and second nodes causes the first and second nodes to contact each other; ~~is moved relative to the node;~~
 - an upper enclosure to hold the keys; and
 - a lower enclosure to support the switch membrane assembly, the lower enclosure including:
 - a region forming a cavity and operable to stiffen the lower enclosure, and

a node support located in the cavity and operable to support one or more of the a-nodes of the switch membrane assembly.

16. (Currently Amended) The keyboard of claim 15 wherein the lower enclosure includes thirteen node supports, each operable to support a respective one of the nodes of the -switch membrane assembly.
17. (Original) The keyboard of claim 15 wherein:
 - the lower enclosure includes two legs operable to support a portion of the lower enclosure above a surface, and
 - the region extends between the two legs.
18. (Currently Amended) The keyboard of claim 15 wherein the lower enclosure includes a rib operable to maintain the position of the node support relative to the one or more nodes of the switch membrane assembly.
19. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
 - computer circuitry for performing computer functions; and
 - a keyboard operable to provide data to the circuitry and including:
 - a plurality of keys, each movable relative to the other keys,
 - a switch membrane assembly including a plurality of circuits each having a first node and a second node both of which correspond ing-to a respective one of the keys, wherein each circuit is operable to generate a signal when the a-key corresponding to the circuit's first and second nodes causes the first and second nodes to contact each other, ~~is moved relative to the node,~~
 - an upper enclosure to hold the keys, and
 - a lower enclosure to support the switch membrane assembly, the lower enclosure including:
 - a region forming a cavity, and
 - a node support located in the cavity and operable to support one or more of the a-nodes of the switch membrane assembly.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a switch membrane assembly of a keyboard, comprising:
- forming a first cavity in an enclosure of a keyboard and in which a circuit can be disposed, the circuit including a first node and a second node both of which correspond to a key, wherein the circuit is operable to generate a signal when the key causes the first and second nodes to contact each other;
 - forming a second cavity in a region of ~~the a lower enclosure of a keyboard~~ to stiffen the ~~lower enclosure~~;
 - locating a node support in the second cavity to support the second ~~a circuit node of the switch membrane assembly~~.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising locating a rib in the second cavity to maintain the position of the node support relative to a floor of the ~~lower enclosure~~.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein locating the rib includes extending the rib between the node support and a wall of the second cavity.
23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein locating the rib includes extending the rib between two node supports.
24. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a signal, the method comprising:
- moving a key of a keyboard to move a top node of a switch membrane assembly toward a corresponding bottom node of the assembly, wherein the top and bottom nodes are disposed in a first cavity of the keyboard;
 - contacting the bottom node with the top node to generate a signal; and
 - supporting the bottom node with a node support when the top node contacts the bottom node, wherein the node support is located in a second cavity of the keyboard.
25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein moving the key of the keyboard includes pushing the key toward the top node.